

## Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 VO-03 CIAE-00 FBIE-00

INSE-00 NSAE-00 EB-11 COA-02 INR-09 INRE-00 CG-00

DODE-00 TRSE-00 L-03 RSR-01 /055 W  
----- 001278

O 231130 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4050

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRAGUE 0605

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TCLR, US, CZ

SUBJECT: PORT SECURITY: CZECHOSLOVAK VESSEL "VITKOVICE"

REF: STATE 52973

1. CONSIDERATIONS OTHER THAN NATIONAL SECURITY AND  
US- CZECHOSLOVAK RELATIONS ARE INVOLVED IN THIS CASE.  
AS WE REPORTED IN PRAGUE 566, "VITKOVICE" WISHES TO  
CALL AT MOBILE TODAY, MARCH 23, TO UNLOAD IRON ORE.  
MINISTRY TELLS US PREVIOUS PORT OF CALL IS SEVEN  
ISLANDS, CANADA. IT APPEARS THAT THIS  
CZECHOSLOVAK VESSEL IS TRANSPORTING CANADIAN IRON  
ORE TO US UNDER CHARTER. IN ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC  
NATIONAL SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS, WHICH ARE NOT  
MENTIONED IN STATE REFTEL, TO FORCE "VITKOVICE"  
TO LIE AT ANCHOR OFF MOBILE UNTIL MARCH 28 WHEN  
FOURTEEN  
- DAY NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT IS MET  
WOULD NOT SEEM TO ADVANCE OUR ECONOMIC INTERESTS.

2. CENTRAL POINT IS THAT "VITKOVICE'S" SPECIFIC  
MOVEMENTS IN PRESENT CASE DEPEND PRINCIPALLY ON  
ORDERS FROM WESTERN CHARTERER. FORCING DELAY IN  
MOBILE CALL WILL AFFECT CHARTERER MUCH MORE THAN  
CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT WHICH WE, BELIEVE, IS RELAYING  
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SHIP'S INTENDED CALLS TO US AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.

3. EMBASSY STRONGLY URGES DEPARTMENT RECONSIDER  
DECISION IN THIS CASE. GIVEN SHORTNESS OF TIME,  
PLEASE NOTIFY CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY WASHINGTON OF  
DECISION, WITH INFO CABLE TO US.

4. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE, IN ANY EVENT, THAT  
MAINTENANCE OF LONGER ADVANCE NOTICE FOR CZECHOSLOVAK  
SHIP CALLS THAN FOR SHIPS OF OTHER EAST EUROPEAN  
COMMUNIST STATES DOES NOT SEEM WARRANTED AND DOES  
NOT PROVIDE NEGOTIABLE ISSUE, GIVEN LACK OF ANY  
POSSIBLE QUID PRO QUO IN CASE OF THIS LANDLOCKED  
NATION.  
SHERER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 02 APR 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973PRAGUE00605  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** PRAGUE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730346/abqcdxma.tel  
**Line Count:** 70  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** n/a  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 52973  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07-Sep-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <13-Sep-2001 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PORT SECURITY: CZECHOSLOVAK VESSEL " VITKOVICE"  
**TAGS:** TCLR, US, CZ  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005